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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/725,432

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EXAMINER

BAYARD, DJENANE M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/725,432	Applicant(s) YI ET AL.	
	Examiner DJENANE M. BAYARD	Art Unit 2444	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-18 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-18 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

.DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to communication filed on 1/14/09 in which claims 1-11, 13-18 and 20.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11, 13-18 and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Art Unit: 2444

4. Claims 1-11, 13-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0126293 to Bushey in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2005/0267935 to Ghandi et al.

a. As per claims 1, 6, 7 and 14, Bushey teaches a user interface conversion system comprising a processor which comprises a gateway (*appliance manager*) wherein an integrated user interface is generated based on neutral user interfaces of devices residing on a home network and converted into a specific user interface suitable for a specific client of a user (See paragraph [0014], wherein the gateway requests a control device to transmit a neutral user interface selected by the user from the integrated user interface, said user selecting said neutral user interface corresponding to a device which the user desires to control among the devices residing on the home network (See paragraph [0006], wherein the control device transmits the selected neutral user interface to the gateway (See paragraph [0014]), and wherein the gateway converts the transmitted neutral user interface into a device specific user interface which is suitable for the specific client of the user (See paragraph [0016], *conversion manager makes the conversion*). Although inherent, Bushey et al fails to specifically disclose wherein the user controls operation of the device using the device specific user interface.

Ghandi et al teaches and wherein the user controls operation of the device using the device specific user interface (See paragraph [0129-0130]).

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It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Ghandi et al in the claimed invention of Bushey in order to provide integration interface or application programming interface to applications on a controller device and sends network data messages to invoke services or query status of a controlled device (See paragraph [0006]).

b. As per claim 2, Bushey teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Wang et al teaches the gateway comprising: a device collection unit for collecting the devices including the neutral user interfaces residing on the home network (See paragraph [0015]); a device database for storing information on the devices collected by the device collection unit (See paragraph [0015]); an integrated user interface generator for generating the integrated user interface based on the information on the devices stored in the device database (See paragraph [0015-0016]); and a user interface conversion unit for converting the integrated user interface generated from the integrated user interface generator into the specific user interface suitable for the specific client of the user (See paragraph [0016]), *conversion manger makes the conversion*).

c. As per claim 3, Bushey teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Bushey et al teaches the gateway further comprising a protocol unit that supports a protocol for searching for a one device residing on the home network (See paragraph [0022]).

d. As per claims 10 and 17, Bushey et al teaches a user interface conversion method supporting various devices, comprising the steps of: (a) requesting, by a user, for a user interface supported in a user's own client (See paragraph [0006]);(b) transmitting neutral user interfaces collected at the request of the user for the user interface (See paragraph [0015]); (c) generating an integrated user interface based on the transmitted neutral user interfaces (See paragraph [0016]); (d) converting the integrated user interface into a specific user interface supported in the client of the user (See paragraph [0016 and 0021]); (e) transmitting the converted specific user interface to the client of the user; (f) displaying the integrated user interface converted into the specific user interface on the client of the user (See paragraph [0018]); (g) and (h) controlling operation the selected device wherein (g) comprises: (g1) requesting a neutral user interface of the selected device; (g2) receiving the neutral user interface of the selected device; and (g3) converting the received neutral user interface into a device specific user interface which is suitable for the client of the user (See paragraph [0015-0018]). However, Bushey et al fails to teach selecting a device which is desired to be controlled among devices residing on a home network from the integrated user interface displayed on the client.

Ghandi et al teaches selecting a device which is desired to be controlled among devices residing on a home network from the integrated user interface displayed on the client (See paragraph [0129-0130]).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Ghandi et al in the claimed invention

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of Bushey in order to provide integration interface or application programming interface to applications on a controller device and sends network data messages to invoke services or query status of a controlled device (See paragraph [0006]).

e. As per claims 11 and 18, Bushey et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Bushey et al teaches wherein step (b) further comprises the steps of: requesting an integrated user interface generator to transmit the neutral user interfaces at the request of the user, by a user interface conversion unit; requesting a device collection unit to transmit the neutral user interfaces collected therein, by the integrated user interface generator; and retrieving the neutral user interfaces collected in a device database, by the device collection unit (See paragraph [0015-0016]).

f. As per claims 4, 8 and 15, Bushey teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Bushey teaches wherein the information on the devices stored in the device database is meta information on the devices and URL information for accessing the neutral user interfaces (See paragraph [0016]).

g. As per claims 5, 9, 13, 16 and 20, Bushey teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Bushey teaches wherein the integrated user interface is described with the neutral user interfaces, wherein the integrated user interface is converted into at least the specific user interface of a plurality of specific user interfaces (See paragraph [0017]).

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DJENANE M. BAYARD whose telephone number is (571)272-3878. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday 5:30 AM-3:00 PM..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Djenane M Bayard/
Examiner, Art Unit 2444